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PATENT

Atty. Docket: #5-5724-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Raymond Brown**
Serial No.: 10/698,732
Filed: November 3, 2003
Group Art Unit: 3677
Examiner: Victor N. Sakran
For:

AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner For Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the content of the outstanding Office Action dated September 7, 2004, please amend the above identified pending patent application as follows:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Ann C. Montoya
November 11, 2004
Ann C. Montoya

Date: 11/11/04

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A strap tensioning apparatus for releasably engaging and rotating a strap tensioning ratchet hub having a transverse bore wherein, the tensioning apparatus comprises:

a collar unit including a cylindrical collar member provided with a peripheral aperture that is dimensioned for alignment with one end of the transverse bore of the ratchet hub;

securing means for connecting the collar member to said ratchet hub; and,



TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission 4

Application Number	10/698,732
Filing Date	November 3, 2003
First Named Inventor	Raymond Brown
Art Unit	3677
Examiner Name	Victor N. Sakran
Attorney Docket Number	5-5724-001

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Sturm & Fix, LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	William H. Wright		
Date	November 10, 2004	Reg. No.	26,424

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature			
Typed or printed name	Ann Montoya	Date	11/11/04

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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